

PLEASE PATRONIZE THE SUPPORTERS OF ST. MARTIN OF TOURS

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### A TASTE OF HEAVEN ON EARTH

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ. Our readings are focused on the gifts of the Word of God and the Eucharist. This feast has deep significance to those of us living the stewardship way of life.

Why? As stewards, we recognize that all that we are and all that we have been given are gifts from God. We are called to treasure these gifts and use them for God's glory. Our Solemnity today and the readings for this week invite us to a deeper gratitude and better stewardship of the two sublime gifts of God's Word and the Eucharist.

In our first reading from Deuteronomy, Our Heavenly Father (such a good teacher) reminds us that just as we experience physical hunger from lack of food, we become spiritually malnourished through lack of feeding on the Word of God. It is that important.

And, just as the Word of God is vital to our spiritual nourishment, so, too is the nourishment of the Eucharist. Jesus could not make this any clearer to us: "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you."

Without the Eucharist, we die spiritually. But through the Eucharist, we experience a taste of heaven right now - "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life."

As Christian stewards, we must recognize that in the gifts of the Word of God and the Eucharist, we have everything we need to sustain us in this world and guide us to heaven. Let us resolve to steward these precious gifts well with all our hearts, always.

reflections@catholicsteward.com

**Pastor**  
Rev. Father Christopher Gerard Gillen P.P.

**Sunday Masses**  
Saturday 5:00 pm Sunday 10:00 am

**Weekday Masses**  
Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri @ 9:00am

**Office hours**  
Tuesday and Thursday  
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

**Administrative Assistant**  
Sandy Johnson

**Financial Recorder**  
Tracy Piggott

**Reconciliation/Confessions**  
Sat 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. or on request

**Requesting Sacraments**  
Must be registered and practicing  
Call office for details

**St Martin School**  
Phone 905-957-3032

**Cemetery**  
Ron Roscovich at 905-386-0648

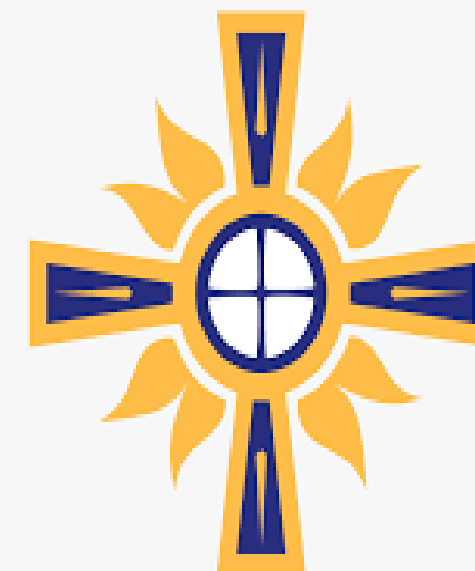
**Parish Organizations**  
Catholic Women's League  
President - Carolyn Vaughan  
Knights of Columbus  
Grand Knight - Lloyd Buchan  
koc.16421@gmail.com

**Facility Maintenance**  
Tom Diletti - tom.diletti@sympatico.ca

**Parish Groups**  
Children's Liturgy, Youth Ministry  
West Lincoln Loaf of Bread  
Parish Events Group  
Parish Financial Council  
Responsible Faith Ministry  
ACTS Retreat Teams

Diocese of St. Catharines  
Bishop of the Diocese  
Most Reverend Gerard Bergie, D.D.  
Diocesan Website: www.saintcd.com

## St. Martin of Tours Roman Catholic Church



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Smithville, Ontario L0R 2A0  
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www.stmartinsparish.com

**June 14, 2020 - Year A**  
**The Most Holy Body and Blood**  
**of Christ**

June 14, 2019

# The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ - Year A MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS, PARISH CALENDAR

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE BISHOP  
June 10, 2020

Weekday Masses still remain private.

Mon	June 15	9:00 am	Intentions Available	
Tues	June 16	9:00 am	Special Intentions of the grandchildren of Marg & Dick Van Geest	by Marg & Dick Van Geest
Wed	June 17	9:00 am	For the salvation of the Lewis family	by Pauline Lewis
Thurs	June 18	9:00 am	In petition for God's blessing on the parish of St. Martin's	by Martha Devlin
Fri	June 19	9:00 am	For Peace within the parish and all its diverse ideas & outreach	by Martha Devlin
		7:30 pm - 9:30pm	Live Stream Praise and Worship Gethsemane Centre Wellandport	
Sat	June 20	<b>The 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>		
		5:00 pm	+Antonio Pais	by Fatima Araujo & family
Sun	June 21	10:00 am	Pro Populo Dei - For the special intentions of St. Martin's Parish Family	

## ONLINE DAILY EUCHARIST

With no public weekday or weekend Masses we offer the following: We continue to keep Holy Sabbath. In an effort to continue the practice of our faith in these trying times, I would like to invite you to [join us online](#) for daily and weekend Mass.

### Gethsemane Ministries Wellandport

Sunday Mass streamed live at 9:30 am

Type in Gethsemane Ministries [Youtube](#).

### Cathedral of St. Catharine of Alexandria

Sunday Mass live stream at 11:30 am. Visit the diocesan website for viewing: [www.saintcd.com](http://www.saintcd.com)

Or on [Youtube](#)

<b>Vision TV</b>	<b>Sun - 8:00 am</b>
	<b>Mon - Fri - 8:00 am &amp; 12:00 pm</b>
	<b>Sat - 8:00 am &amp; 9:30 am</b>
<b>Salt + Light</b>	<b>Sun - 11:00 am &amp; 10:30 pm</b>
	<b>Mon - Sat - 6:30 am, 11:00 am,</b>
	<b>3:00 pm, 10:30 pm</b>
<b>yesTV</b>	<b>Sun - 10:30 am</b>
	<b>Mon - Sat - 1:00 pm</b>

**Internet** [www.dailytvmass.com](http://www.dailytvmass.com)  
[www.youtube.com/dailytvmass](http://www.youtube.com/dailytvmass)

## PARISH RE-OPENING

We are not ready to re-open as we need to have many procedures and protocols in place (See the letters from the Diocese one the next 2 pages). We will aim to have public weekend Masses next weekend, June 20/21?

We thank you for your patience and understanding at this time. Your safety and health is our top priority.

## PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

We will soon be OPEN, but only at 30%. Many will opt to continue with online Sunday and Weekday Masses which is acceptable. We are asking and encouraging that WE continue our financial support to our parish. We continue to ask to either drop off your stewardship to the rectory mailbox or kindly mail in your offering. We thank you in advance for your stewardship.

Thank you, and God bless.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I am so pleased that I can share with you some good news during this time of pandemic. The Ontario Government announced on Monday, June 8, that all places of worship will be allowed to open to the public at 30% capacity. We should thank God that we can, once again, open our churches for personal prayer and the public celebration of the Sacraments.

Parish Churches will begin opening when they are ready and have all protocols in place. For some, this will begin on the Feast of Corpus Christi (June 14, 2020).

As we move into this re-opening phase, the following priorities guide our planning:

- The health and safety of the faithful, clergy, staff and volunteers
- Proactive measures to avoid the potential of a second surge of this virus;
- Recognizing the very basic commandment – love of neighbour – we have a responsibility to care for one another.

To accomplish these will require certain procedures that you will hear about directly from your pastor and through parish communication channels. Pertinent information will be posted on our Diocesan website and will also be made available to you through your parish.

Be assured that a detailed “return plan” has been shared with all of our parishes and will be implemented in the days ahead. We pray that these measures will be temporary.

For those who are sick, have a compromised immune system or feel uncomfortable returning to church at this time, the dispensation from the obligation of Sunday Mass remains during this period of uncertainty.

Given the capacity restrictions that are in place as we re-open churches, we will also continue to livestream Masses wherever possible, recognizing all will not be able to gather at this time. There may also be a need for additional Sunday Masses. Local parishes will also communicate their plans regarding their Mass schedules and other logistics related to attendance and re-opening.

Approaching these uncertain days with a spirit of kindness and generosity to one another will help us all as we navigate the path ahead. I continue to be inspired by the countless acts of goodwill and charity taking place throughout our diocese.

May we continue to pray for the sick, those who have died during this pandemic and for those caring for them. Be assured of my gratitude for your patience and faithfulness during this closure period. Please be assured of my prayers and best wishes.

With kind regards, I remain  
Yours sincerely in Christ,  
Most Reverend Gerard Bergie,  
D.D. Bishop of St. Catharines

## DIOCESAN GUIDELINES ON THE RE-OPENING OF CHURCHES

Material preparation:

- Wooden pews need to be wiped carefully, with an approved disinfecting solution, and dried promptly. For other areas and surfaces, disinfectant cleaning products should have 70% alcohol to kill the coronavirus. These products are readily available at grocery and department stores.
- Directional signage/tape is to be placed on the doors/floors. Use one entrance door, fully accessible. One exit only, except in case of emergency. (NB, it is against the fire code to block emergency exits.)
- Remove all hymn books, prayer books and reading material from the church. No printed bulletins at this time.
- Post signs on the doors of the church regarding Mass times, Reconciliation, times for private prayer and adoration, and the screening protocols that are in place. The same information should be posted on your website and Facebook pages, and on your outgoing phone message.
- Remove kneelers from the front. At this time, it is strongly recommended that communion is by hand. Communicants are instructed to remove their masks while the person ahead of them is receiving Holy Communion. After the priest says, "The Body of Christ" and the communicant responds "Amen" (at a distance of two meters), the communicant then approaches the priest to receive communion.
- Ensure that physical distancing is maintained in the sacristy and in the sanctuary and that all clergy, ministers and volunteers who assist at Masses have or are provided with face masks and disposable gloves.
- The use of extraordinary ministers of Communion is not encouraged at this time. The number of altar servers should also be limited.
- Place hand sanitizer, preferably touchless, at entrance doors. (NB, parishes should have enough supply of PPE to remain open for the next weeks, not only for their first Mass with a congregation present.)
- Place garbage containers at entrance/exit doors. Empty after each Mass.
- Assess need/practicality of having an overflow area in the parish hall for Mass to be livestreamed.
- Assess parish Sunday Mass schedules. Try to accommodate as many parishioners as possible, being mindful that the church needs to be cleaned and disinfected before each Mass.
- Church washrooms are to be restricted to use only when absolutely necessary. No more than one person/family (living at the same address) at a time should use the washroom. Notices to this effect are to be posted outside the washroom. Handwashing signs are also to be placed in the washroom. Any washroom that is soiled must be closed pending cleaning with disinfectant.

### **Recruit Ushers/Volunteers**

- **A special janitorial crew** to ensure the church is thoroughly cleaned before each opening of the Church. The COVID-19 virus can live on surfaces for 72 hours; if church openings are scheduled more than 72 hours apart, regular cleaning is required; thorough disinfecting is recommended, but not required.
- **Ushers**
  - ◆ **One outside, if needed:**
    - ⇒ to monitor capacity,
    - ⇒ to pre-screen (did you take your temperature, otherwise please return home),
    - ⇒ to direct people to proper entrance door.
  - ◆ **One at the inside entrance** (door propped open) to oversee all ushers, and liaise with the pastor, welcome parishioners.
  - ◆ **One or two to escort** to pews (every third pew only) and ensure safe traffic flow, physical distancing before and during Mass/Communion time. Those who attend with a personal mobility device should be placed in a designated area to allow a two-meter (six foot) space between each person.
  - ◆ **One or two to oversee the church facility** (pews clean/disinfected, washroom cleaned, holy water fonts empty/covered, sanitizer available, nothing left in pews, security of collection basket).

## **Post Information/Guidelines**

(on parish website, Facebook page, church doors, outgoing phone message):

- Parish schedule for Sunday and weekday Masses, Reconciliation, adoration and private prayer.
- Notice regarding 30% capacity, first come/first served
- Screening and public health protocols are in place (check your temperature, recommendation to wear a mask - BYOM).

Reminder that Catholics are still dispensed from their obligation of Sunday Mass attendance at this time. COVID-19 is still in a threat to public health, and our churches are open to 30% capacity only. Those who are considered vulnerable and those who care for them should not attend. Some may not be allowed entry for a specific Mass if capacity is reached before their arrival.

For those who plan to attend Mass in person, please take appropriate precautions including taking your temperature before leaving home to attend Mass, ensuring proper hygiene especially hand washing. If you have any symptoms that might be COVID-19 related, or if you have been in contact with someone suffering from possible or confirmed COVID-19 symptoms, please remain at home and contact Public Health authorities.

We suggest that parishioners over the age of three wear masks during Mass. Masks will not be provided by the Church.

There will be no Children's Liturgy at this time. Crying rooms will be closed.

Weather permitting, doors are to remain open, with at least one usher attending.

No fans directed at congregants.

### **WHEN YOU ARE OPEN FOR THE CELEBRATION OF MASS**

Pastor/reader should make announcements before Mass:

Welcome back! There are a number of temporary changes including

- No procession into the church, rather from the sacristy.
- No congregational singing at this time.
- No sign of peace.
- Remain in your pews until ushered out for communion, exiting. Ushers will direct traffic flow.
- No collection/presentation of gifts. Collection baskets provided at the exit door.
- Reception of Communion by hand is strongly recommended.
- After Mass, please exit quietly, maintaining physical distancing. Do not congregate at the doors of the church or in the parking lot.
- We are taking precautions to protect the health and safety of everyone who comes into our churches. However, there can be no guarantees of complete protection from infection; there will always be risks of contracting viral infection in large gatherings of people.
- If you develop COVID-19 symptoms in the days following your attendance at Mass, please phone/email the parish office, in addition to contacting your doctor/public health.

We are still in the midst of a pandemic, and our primary concern must be for the life and health of the whole community. We must continue to pray for the people in our community and our world, as we begin to move forward and heal from the devastation of this pandemic. Please direct any questions or concerns to the Chancery office. At this time, parish offices are to remain closed to the public. Parish ministries, meetings and social gatherings are on hold. A memo regarding the re-opening of church offices, and the resumption of parish activities will be sent out at the appropriate time.